

**SEBASTIAN SPERING KRESGE**

1867 - 1966



Sebastian Spering Kresge was born of Pennsylvania Dutch parentage on a farm in Bald Mount, Pennsylvania. As a child he attended country school and Fairview Academy. In 1886, he attended Polytechnic Institute and taught school in the winter for \$22 a month. The next summer he was a farm hand on his parents' land and, in the winter, a grocery clerk earning \$35 to \$40 a month.

In 1893, Mr. Kresge took a commercial course at Eastman Business College. From 1899 to 1907 he held diverse jobs. He was employed in a wholesale produce business, sold industrial insurance, canvassed, sold house furnishings, had half interest in a bakery, and was a bookkeeper for a hardware company. As a traveling tinware salesman, he saved \$8,000 to invest in business.

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